

and election year politics into the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence. It has always been above that and, for the good of the Nation, should remain above that.

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I will close. I urge Members to vote no on the previous question. If the previous question is defeated, I will offer an amendment to the rule that will allow the House to vote on a critical amendment that was defeated on a straight party line vote last night at the Committee on Rules.

The amendment by the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. PETERSON) would fully fund the counterterrorism needs of the intelligence community by increasing by 100 percent the funds authorized in the contingency emergency reserve. What many Members may not realize is that the President's budget request covered just a fraction of the intelligence community's counterterrorism requirements, less than a third. They say the rest of the funds will be requested only after the November election.

Well, the Nation's intelligence agencies have indicated that they need additional funds and the Peterson amendment will make sure that they receive them now, not after November elections.

Mr. Speaker, fighting terrorism is not now and has never been a partisan issue. After 9/11, Republicans and Democrats stood side by side on the steps of the Capitol united in our effort to root out terrorists and to keep America safe. It is hard for me to understand why Republicans would now actively work to keep the House from adequately funding the counterterrorism efforts.

The intelligence bill has long been considered in this House under an open rule. Any Member who wished to bring an amendment to the floor could do so, but last year things began to change. Republicans started to pass rules that restricted amendments, that allowed them to pick and choose which amendments could be debated in the floor of the House. This year they have taken it too far.

The Peterson amendment is far too important not to be considered and is far too important to be subject to petty partisan games. It deserves a separate vote here on the floor today.

So I urge Members on both sides of the aisle to vote no on the previous question. Let me make it very clear that a no vote will not stop the House from taking up the intelligence bill and will not prevent any of the amendments made in order from being offered. However, a yes vote will mean that the House will not have the opportunity to fully fund the Nation's counterterrorism needs.

Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to insert the text of the amendment immediately prior to the vote on the previous question.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. OSE). Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from New York?

There was no objection.

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I would just like to remind my colleagues in closing that there is more money in this bill than ever before. There is more money for counterterrorism than ever before. And whatever is needed will be provided, as always been the manner of this House and the other body to do.

I want to close by thanking the gentleman from Florida (Chairman GOSS) because he has always worked in a very bipartisan manner on the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, which all of us appreciate greatly, and with his background in intelligence, of course, that has been extremely important to have him there. We are going to miss him greatly, both as a chairman and as a long-serving, well respected Member of Congress from Florida.

So we wish him only the best as he goes on whatever new challenges he may take on.

Mr. LINDER. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this structured rule, and thank my friend and colleague from the Rules Committee, Mrs. MYRICK, for yielding me this time.

H. Res. 686 is a structured rule that provides for the consideration of H.R. 4548, the FY2005 Intelligence Authorization Act of 2005. It is a fair and balanced rule that deserves the support of the House. It makes in order a total of ten (10) separate amendments to the underlying bill, three from members of the minority and the remainder from members of the majority. These ten amendments were more than half of the 18 amendments submitted to the Rules Committee.

Mr. Speaker, I also rise in support of the underlying measure, H.R. 4548, which authorizes funding for critical intelligence programs for FY2005.

I want to commend Chairman GOSS for bringing this legislation to the floor. As Chairman of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence for the past eight years, the gentleman from Sanibel, Florida has served this country with honor, integrity, and distinction.

His tenure has been marked by a tireless effort to improve and reform our nation's intelligence capabilities. He has never wavered in his steadfast desire to invest in this critical government function, and while there is still work to be done, his leadership has helped the intelligence community deal with a turbulent global environment.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 4548 provides the tools necessary for a strong and effective U.S. intelligence mission as we wage a war against terrorism.

Intelligence efforts serve as the first line of defense against terrorism and oppression. Without a strong commitment to this effort, our freedoms and this democracy are vulnerable to the fear and terror of others.

It is incumbent on us to ensure that the blessings of liberty afforded to the citizens of this great nation are preserved under any possible means. By passing H.R. 4548, we are

upholding this intention. As such, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H. Res. 686.

The material previously referred to by Ms. SLAUGHTER is as follows:

PREVIOUS QUESTION FOR H. RES. 686—RULE ON H.R. 4548 INTELLIGENCE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FY 2005

At the end of the resolution, add the following:

“SEC. 2. Notwithstanding any other provision of this resolution the amendment specified in section 3 shall be in order as though printed after the amendment numbered 1 in the report of the Committee on Rules if offered by Representative Peterson of Minnesota or a designee. That amendment shall be debatable for 60 minutes equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent.

SEC. 3. The amendment referred to in section 2 is as follows:

At the end of title I, insert the following new section:

SEC. 105. INCREASE IN AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS TO FULLY FUND THE NATIONAL FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE PROGRAM.

The amounts authorized to be appropriated under section 101 for the conduct of the intelligence and intelligence-related activities of the elements listed in such section for the Contingency Emergency Reserve, as specified in the classified Schedule of Authorizations referred to in section 102, are increased 100 percent.

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time, and I move the previous question on the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on ordering the previous question.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken later in the day.

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION EXTENSION ACT OF 2004, PART III

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4635) to provide an extension of highway, highway safety, motor carrier safety, transit, and other programs funded out of the Highway Trust Fund pending enactment of a law reauthorizing the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century.